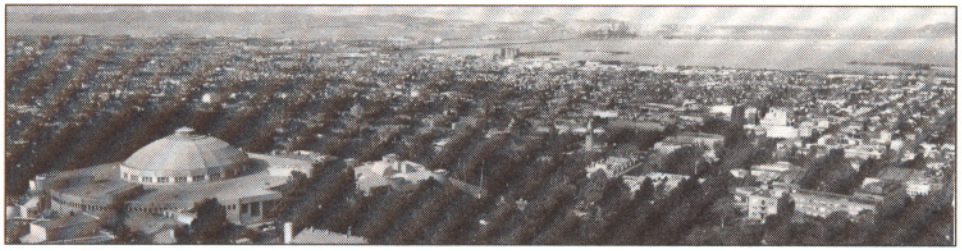
FACT SHEET NO. 1
FALL 1992



ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

LAWRENCE BERKELEY LABORATORY

COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY

This fact sheet is intended to acquaint the community with the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory (LBL) and to describe the LBL Environmental Restoration Program. This is part of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) environmental cleanup program. We plan to keep the community informed about this important program, and we invite the community to get involved.

LBL and DOE are committed to maintaining a quality environment. We believe that this commitment can best be accomplished by working cooperatively with the community.

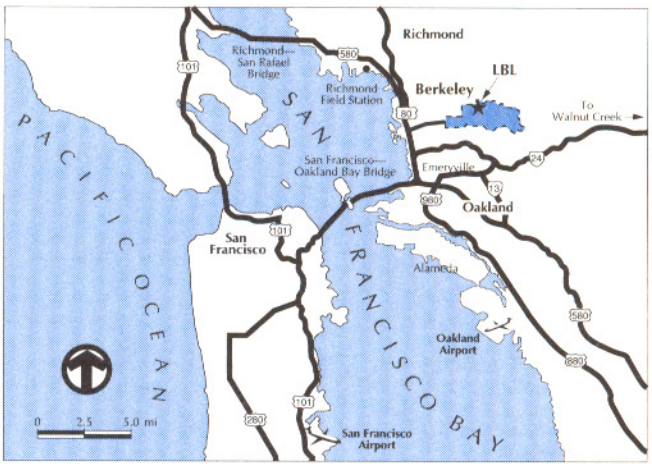
LAWRENCE BERKELEY LABORATORY

LBL pursues internationally recognized scientific research. This research develops fundamental understanding and applications in many fields, including:

- Biology and Medicine
- Communications
- Energy and Environment
- Materials
- Physics
- Transportation

The Laboratory is managed by the University of California for the DOE. LBL is located on a 130-acre site overlooking the UC Berkeley campus. With an annual budget of $250 million, LBL supports 3,000 employees, including 1,000 scientists and engineers.

LBL is the oldest of nine DOE national laboratories and was founded in 1931 by Ernest O. Lawrence, winner of the 1939 Nobel Prize in Physics. Over the years, LBL's research efforts have produced numerous awards, including nine Nobel Prizes.



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UNDER WAY

In the Spring of 1991, LBL submitted a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B permit application to the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), as required to operate a hazardous waste handling facility. A recently revised application was submitted to DTSC in August 1992. As part of the permitting process, LBL is currently investigating the effect of past Laboratory operations on its environment. This assessment is part of the LBL Environmental Restoration Program.

The first phase of this facility assessment consisted of four elements:

- Review of past and current records of Laboratory activities
- Visual facility inspection
- Interviews
- Evaluation of on-site soil, water and air samples

To date, some low-level contaminants (mostly solvents) have been found in soil and ground water on the LBL site. These contaminants do not impact drinking water sources.